

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel without prejudice Claims 6-14.

Please amend the following claims:

1 1. (Amended) A manufacturing method for a gas discharge panel that has a first
2 substrate on which a protective layer is formed and a second substrate on which phosphor layers
3 are formed, the manufacturing method comprising an alignment step for arranging the first
4 substrate and the second substrate at predetermined locations, while opposing the first substrate
5 and the second substrate,

6 wherein the alignment step is conducted under a reduced pressure and
7 wherein the first substrate is placed under the reduced pressure and heated, and
8 the second substrate is placed in dry gas, before the alignment step is conducted.

1 2. (Amended) The manufacturing method for the gas discharge panel of Claim 1,
2 wherein the first substrate is placed under a reduced pressure and heated in a first
3 reduced pressure chamber and/or and the second substrate is placed under a reduced pressure and
4 heated in a second reduced pressure chamber, prior to the alignment step in which the first and
5 the second substrates are aligned under a reduced pressure in a third reduced pressure chamber.

1 3. (Original) The manufacturing method for the gas discharge panel of Claim 2,
2 wherein, after the protective layer is formed on the first substrate, the first
3 substrate is subjected to a first substrate baking step in which the first substrate is placed under
4 the reduced pressure and heated in the first reduced pressure chamber.

1 4. (Amended) The manufacturing method for the gas discharge panel of Claims 2
2 ~~and 3~~,

3 wherein the second substrate is formed by a phosphor layers forming step, a
4 phosphor layers baking step, a seal member applying step, and a seal member pre-baking step,
5 and

6 the second substrate is placed under the reduced pressure and heated in the second
7 reduced pressure chamber part way through the seal member pre-baking step.

1 5. (Original) The manufacturing method for the gas discharge panel of Claim 4,
2 wherein the first and the second reduced pressure chambers are each reduced to a
3 pressure of 1,333Pa or less.

1 6. (Amended) A manufacturing method for a gas discharge panel that has a first
2 substrate on which a protective layer is formed and a second substrate on which phosphor layers
3 are formed, the manufacturing method comprising an alignment step for arranging the first
4 substrate and the second substrate at predetermined locations, while opposing the first substrate
5 and the second substrate,

6 wherein the alignment step is conducted in dry gas and
7 wherein the first substrate is placed under reduced pressure and heated, and the
8 second substrate is placed in dry gas, before the alignment step is conducted.

1 7-14. (Cancelled.)